

31 March 1987

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dr. Julian Nall
NIO/S&T

FROM:
Chairman, SIGINT Committee

STAT

SUBJECT: FSCS--Alternative Future Signals Environment

1. Premise

- Senior Executives will:
 - Review Alternatives for Future SIGINT Capabilities;
 - Decide on Investment Strategy;
 - Defend the investment decisions.
- Senior Executives need:
 - Comprehensive array of investment choices with performance factors;
 - Best estimate of distant future challenges likely to be presented;
 - Display of other relevant data.

2. Assumptions:

- Must include Eco/Pol/Mil in addition to technical projections;
- Will be imperfect--requiring periodic update;
- Will be useful if it narrows choices and identifies uncertainties;
- Must cover major topical subjects and geographic areas. (May aggregate where common factors prevail or uncertainty is too great);
- The basic FSCS technical work was valid but dated and limited in scope.

- Within the practical limits of the data available and the analytic conclusions possible from that data, consider:
 - In answering the questions the answer "unknown" is acceptable if followed by a list of the major uncertainties which cause the answer.
 - An answer which includes a range of probable outcomes is also acceptable, particularly if the different factors which influence the alternative conclusions are identified.

The alternative future environment report must answer the following questions:

a) What are the most likely economic/military/political/technical factors which affect trends in the world signals environment from 1995 to 2010?

- o In the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe?
- o In the PRC and Korea?
- o In the Third World?
- o In the industrialized nations of Western Europe and Japan?
- o In topical areas, such as international trade and finance, terrorism, etc.

b) What are the probable alternatives to the most likely trends in each area?

c) What foreseeable events of a political or economic nature could change the projection in some major way?

d) Which of these trends have most significance for overhead collection?



STAT